

FISCAL NOTE

HB 994 - SB 1128

March 27, 2007

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires trial court to hold in contempt any person who makes a false accusation of sexual abuse in furtherance of litigation. Requires false accuser to pay other party's litigation costs.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Net Impact -Not Significant

Assumptions:

- Persons making false allegations will be required to pay the attorney fees of the defendant, thereby reducing the state's costs of providing counsel to indigent defendants. However, there will not be a sufficient number of such cases in which reimbursement is made for the state to experience any significant decrease in cost.
- Proving an accuser knowingly made false accusations may require additional court time and increase state expenditures. The increase in state expenditures is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director